

FACT SHEET

FINAL AMENDMENTS TO THE AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR THE MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIC CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

TODAY'S ACTION

- On June 23, 2006 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized amendments to the air toxics standards for the Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry. This industry produces specialty organic chemicals, explosives, certain polymers and resins and certain pesticide intermediates. The final rule can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html>.
- EPA published the final rule for Miscellaneous Chemical Manufacturing Industry in the Federal Register on November 10, 2003. EPA estimated that the final rule will reduce HAP emissions by 16,800 tons per year for existing facilities that manufacture miscellaneous organic chemicals.
- EPA agreed to consider final amendments as part of a settlement agreement entered into by EPA and parties who challenged the final rule. Those parties are the American Chemistry Council, Eastman Chemical Company, Clariant LSM (America), Inc., Rohm and Haas Company, General Electric Company, Lyondell Chemical Company, and the Coke Ovens Environmental Task Force.
- The final amendments to the rule:
 - Clarify applicability of specific operations and processes;
 - Simplify the leak detection and repair requirements for connectors without impacting the overall level of control;
 - Remove inconsistencies in the definition of process vents and affected wastewater streams;
 - Better explain the control requirements for wastewater streams that contain only soluble hazardous air pollutants;
 - Clarify the definition of process condensers;
 - Provide more flexibility for recordkeeping requirements for batch process vents.
- The amendments also make technical corrections to the standards to help clarify the intent of the standards and to correct inconsistencies that EPA discovered during the review process.

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- The final amendments do not alter the maximum available control technology standards and do not change the health or environmental impacts.

WHO WILL BE AFFECTED BY EPA'S FINAL RULE?

- Owners or operators of organic chemical manufacturing process units that are located at a major source for hazardous air pollutants will be affected by these amendments to the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants. Existing affected sources are required to comply with this rule by May 10, 2008.

FINAL RULE COSTS

- There are no additional costs associated with the final amendments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- For further information about the final amendments, contact Randy McDonald of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5402.